

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/437,378

Examiner

Michael Y. Won

Applicant(s)

HELLMAN ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Amendment filed February 8, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6, 9-12, 16-24, and 27-38 (re-numbered 1-31).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 7/5/09
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


SALEH NAJJAR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with John S. Curran (Reg. No. 50,445) on April 7, 2006.

3. The application has been amended as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for processing user requests in a network, comprising the steps of:

processing selectively user requests to access information, the selective processing directing a request originating from a user selection of a controlled vocabulary abstract hyperlink to a hyperlink redirection facility, said controlled vocabulary abstract hyperlink including a semantic value and an URL (Uniform Resource Locator) address of the hyperlink redirection facility, said semantic value being at least one of a descriptive term and an identifier for the requested information,

said hyperlink redirection facility being an intermediary performing redirection of said request and having more than one possible target profile for each request, said selective processing further directing a user request originating from a user selection of a hyperlink not including an URL of the hyperlink redirection facility directly to a requested resource without first directing the request to the hyperlink redirection facility;

receiving at the redirection facility a communication [holding information] from the user contemporaneously with or following the receipt of the user request to access information originating from the selection of the controlled vocabulary abstract hyperlink;

identifying, the identification based on the information in the received communication, a user-supplied preference regarding which service provider to use to service the request, said user-supplied preference being identified at the hyperlink redirection facility prior to any communication being sent from the hyperlink redirection facility or server to the user soliciting said preference; and

directing the request originating from the selection of the controlled vocabulary abstract hyperlink from the redirection facility to a user for forwarding to a service provider for servicing the request based on the user-supplied preferences.

6. (Currently Amended) In an environment having a redirection facility, a method, comprising the steps of:

processing selectively a user request to access information, the selective processing directing a request originating from a user selection of a hyperlink that includes a reference to [the] a hyperlink redirection facility and a semantic value

associated with the hyperlink to [a] the hyperlink redirection facility, said semantic value being at least one of a descriptive term and an identifier for the requested information, said selective processing further directing a user request originating from a user selection of a hyperlink not including a reference to the hyperlink redirection facility directly to a requested resource without first directing the request to the hyperlink redirection facility;

receiving at the hyperlink redirection facility a communication [holding information] from the user contemporaneously with or following the receipt of the user request to access information originating from the user selection of the hyperlink including the reference to the hyperlink redirection facility;

identifying, the identification based on the information in the received communication, a user-supplied preference regarding which service provider to use to service the request, said user-supplied preference being identified at the redirection facility prior to any communication being sent from the redirection facility to the user soliciting said preference;

directing the request originating from the user selection of the hyperlink including the reference to the hyperlink redirection facility from the hyperlink redirection facility to the user for forwarding to a service provider for servicing of the request, said request modified based on the user-supplied preferences;

identifying a second service provider to use to service the request originating from the user selection of the hyperlink including the reference to the hyperlink redirection facility and directing the request from the hyperlink redirection facility to the

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user to for forwarding to the second service provider for servicing of the request when the service provider fails to fully service the [request,] request; and

identifying the service provider that failed to fully service the request at the hyperlink redirection facility before the direction of the request to the user for forwarding to the second service provider.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the step of receiving the [user] user-supplied information comprises receiving a cookie.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the [electronic device is] method for processing user requests is performed by a computer system.

13. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A tangible computer-readable medium [holding] having stored thereon computer-executable instructions for processing user requests, the instruction comprising:

instructions for processing selectively a request to access information, the selective processing directing a request originating from a user selection of a controlled vocabulary abstract hyperlink to a hyperlink redirection [facility] server, said controlled

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vocabulary abstract hyperlink including a semantic value and an URL (Uniform Resource Locator) address of the hyperlink redirection server, said semantic value being at least one of a descriptive term and an identifier for the requested information, said hyperlink redirection server being an intermediary performing redirection of said request and having more than one possible target profile for each request said selective processing further directing a user request originating from a user selection of a hyperlink not including an URL of the hyperlink redirection [facility] server directly to a requested resource without first directing the request to the hyperlink redirection [facility] server;

instructions for receiving at the hyperlink redirection [facility] server a communication holding information from the user contemporaneously with or following the receipt of the user request to access information originating from the selection for the controlled vocabulary abstract hyperlink;

instructions for identifying, the identification based on the information in the received communication, a user-supplied preference regarding which service provider to use to service the request, said user-supplied preference being identified at the hyperlink redirection server prior to any communication being sent from the hyperlink redirection server to the user soliciting said preference; and

instructions for directing the request originating from the selection of controlled vocabulary abstract hyperlink, from the redirection server via the user to a service provider for servicing the request based on the user-supplied preferences.

20. (Currently Amended) The medium of claim 19, wherein the instructions further comprise instructions for receiving a communication [holding information] about the user and using this information to identify the user preference.

22. (Currently Amended) A tangible computer-readable medium [holding] having stored thereon computer-executable instructions for processing user requests, the instruction comprising:

instructions for processing selectively user requests to access information, the selective processing resolving a request generated by a user selection of a controlled vocabulary abstract hyperlink by directing the request to a hyperlink redirection facility, the request including the link information associated with the link including an URL (Uniform Resource Locator) address of the hyperlink redirection facility, the hyperlink redirection facility receiving user-supplied information regarding a user contemporaneously with or following the receipt of the link information and prior to any communication being sent from the hyperlink redirection facility to the user soliciting said information, said link information including a URL [(Uniform Resource Locator)] address of said hyperlink redirection facility, said semantic value being at least one of a descriptive term and an identifier for the resource, said hyperlink redirection facility being an intermediary performing redirection of said request and having more than one possible target profile for each request, said selective processing further directing a user request originating from a user selection of a hyperlink not including an URL address of

the hyperlink redirection facility directly to a requested resource without first directing the request to the hyperlink redirection facility;

instructions for identifying a resolution service to employ to resolve the controlled vocabulary abstract hyperlink based on the user information; and

instructions for forwarding at least some of the link information associated with the controlled vocabulary abstract hyperlink to the user to for forwarding to the identified resolution service for resolution of the controlled vocabulary abstract hyperlink.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Prior art of record or any combination thereof does not teach, disclose, or suggest, "processing selectively user requests to access information, the selective processing directing a request originating from a user selection of a controlled vocabulary abstract hyperlink to a hyperlink redirection facility", "said selective processing further directing a user request originating from a user selection of a hyperlink not including an URL of the hyperlink redirection facility directly to a requested resource without first directing the request to the hyperlink redirection facility", and "user-supplied preference being identified at the hyperlink redirection facility prior to any communication being sent from the hyperlink redirection facility to the user soliciting said preference" as recited in claim 1 and similarly recited in independent claims 6, 9, 17, 19, 22, and 27.

5. Claims 1-6, 9-12, 16-24, and 27-38 (re-numbered 1-31) are allowed. Claims 13 and 15 have been cancelled with this Examiner's Amendment.

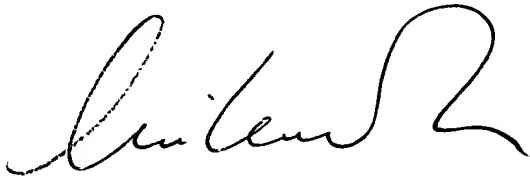
6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Y. Won whose telephone number is 571-272-3993. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th: 7AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on 571-272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Michael Won



April 7, 2006



SALEH NAJJAR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER